

Given a series of events, the reader selects or creates an appropriate hypothesis to explain them.

UNIT 5
Lesson 1
Drawing Conclusions

TECHNICAL TALK

Imagine you are from another planet. You might have trouble explaining some of the things Earth people do. Imagine a New Year's Eve party for example. Think about a Christmas celebration or Passover. We do a lot of things that come down to us as traditions. They have meaning we know about. Another person who doesn't know what we think might have to guess why we celebrate in this way.

Sometimes we must do the same thing when we are reading. We must think of reasons why certain things happen. Scientists are interested in this kind of thinking. One of the goals of science is to explain what we know about the world as we see it.

TRY IT

In this unit you will be asked to draw conclusions about the reasons for events. Read the paragraphs below and answer the questions.



GOING OUT

It was nearly dark outside. The trees had lost almost all their leaves. The cold, fall air whispered in the bare tree branches. The children were excited. Weeks ago, each of them had planned what he or she would wear. Even Joey, the smallest of all, knew something important was about to happen. He could not talk yet, but he sensed the excitement of the others.

They helped each other get ready. Judy helped Brian smear his face with green color. She made it look as gruesome as she could. When she was finished, she could hardly recognize her brother. Then she slipped on the frazzled hair she planned to wear over her own brown curls. It was as if they were changing into something different. It was like becoming a butterfly, she thought. Then she looked at her brother again. No, it was more like changing from a butterfly into a worm.

"I want you to mind your manners," called their mother. She would think of that! They opened the door and went out into the goblin-infested dark.

1. There are four characters in this sketch. Who are they?

(a) _____ (c) _____

(b) _____ (d) _____

2. Are you given any hint about what time of year it is? Write the sentences that contain the clues.

(a) _____

(b) _____

3. What are the children planning to do? _____

4. Give two reasons why you know your answer is right.

(a) _____

(b) _____

5. How do you know their costumes are ugly? _____

REVIEW

UNIT 5 Lesson 2 Drawing Conclusions

The kids in this description are going out for Halioween trick or treating. It is fall, which is Halloween time. They are putting on make-up and costumes. They are excited about it. They go out into a dark goblin-infested world. Their mother tells them to mind their manners. It all adds up. They are following the same custom millions of children have followed each year for a very long time.

Now read the paragraph below. Guess the reason for the events taking place.

NEW BEGINNINGS

Marcy held one end of the blanket and they folded it. It was packed tightly in the trunk along with the good pillows and tablecloths. They would not be using it for many weeks. The roads would be dusty, and the trip would be hard. They planned to use old things while they traveled.

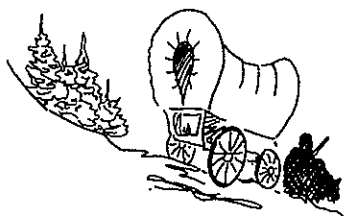
Later she watched Matt loading the trunk into the Conestoga wagon. The pillows and the blanket were about the only luxuries they would take. Matt was already worried about the weight of all the cargo they were taking. He had said once that they might have to throw something out if they ran into trouble. She hoped that would not happen.

She knew there would be problems along the way. You could not travel that distance without problems, no matter how many others were with you. She knew they could make it, though. It might be lonely. It depended on whom they would find to go with them.

She thought a minute about her mother. It was going to be hardest on her. Marcy had been married for less than a year. There were still three of her brothers at home to help, but she was the only daughter. When she was married, her mother had had to take on more work. Marcy wished she could stay near her home. Then she would be able to visit her family and help her mother some. But that was not possible. There was just no good unused farmland left in the East, and Matt was a farmer. They had to go where they could find new land.

1. Where are Matt and Marcy going? _____
2. How long have Matt and Marcy been married? _____
3. How do you know the trip will be a very long one? _____
4. How do you think the trip will be made? (a) by stagecoach (b) by wagon train (c) by station wagon
5. Copy the sentence that gives you the clue to answer number 4.

6. Why are they forced to leave? _____



Read the paragraph below and answer the questions. Read carefully for detail. Look for clues to tell you what is happening.

UNIT 5
Lesson 3
Drawing Conclusions



THREE VISITORS

He hated it! They came thumping and bumping along. They stomped and they banged. It was so loud a body could hardly take a nap. It was his bridge and they had no right to cross it without his permission! Two of them had already gone across this morning. He was waiting for the last one. He had let the first one go. The second one had said, "I'm only a little one. Wait for my brother. He's bigger."

He looked up at the bottom of his lovely bridge. He had lived under it for almost 200 years now. He had never met anyone before as disrespectful, as inconsiderate as these three. Their hooves made the loudest noise he had heard on the bridge in the whole 200 years. Every morning it was over the bridge and up into the hills for them. Then every night just when he was waking up they came pounding over again going home. Well, this was the last day. He was tired of the noise. He was also hungry, and one of them would make a fine meal. He wouldn't have to wait much longer.

He looked at his reflection in the water. Using a stick, he combed his seven lovely straggly hairs. How handsome he was! His warts were all in just the right places. The tone of his skin was just the right shade of green, and he had always been pleased with his yellow eyes. He was also hungry.

"I probably should have eaten the second one, he thought to himself. The third one is the biggest one, I know. But I would have been finished by now. It's a bother to wait."

Just then, he heard the stomping and the thumping and the banging and the bumping begin. He drew his three feet together and stood up. Then, in his loudest voice, he bellowed, "WHO IS THAT TRIP-TRAPPING ACROSS MY BRIDGE?"

1. This piece is an old fairy tale told in a different way. What is the name of the fairy tale?

2. Who is the main character in this version? _____

3. Who are the other three characters? _____

4. According to the original story, what will happen next? _____

5. What are the four main features that make the troll think he is handsome?

(a) _____ (c) _____

(b) _____ (d) _____

HOW DID YOU DO?

